

Western Maryland Regional Medical Center
12500 Willowbrook Road
Cumberland, Md. 21502

RE: Comments on the PCI Work Group Recommendations

Ms. Pamela Barclay

Recommendations

1. The Work Group recommends that Maryland adopt the NCDR CathPCI Registry tool.

The CathPCI Registry is tool that assesses the characteristics, treatments and outcomes of all cardiac disease patients who receive diagnostic catheterizations and/or percutaneous intervention procedures. By participation in this registry enrolled hospitals can measure their performance in diagnosing and treating these patients against similar comparison groups and national benchmarks and also set achievable performance goals to develop quality improvement plans that will help institutions to meet standards of care.

The purpose of the CathPCI Registry is optimize the outcomes and management of coronary heart disease patients through implementation of evidence based guideline recommendations in clinical practice, and to facilitate efforts to improve quality & safety of CHD. Objectives include adherence to guidelines, assess utilization of diagnostic imaging, laboratory tests and invasive procedures; and track LOS data, assess utilization of evidence based discharge medications, risk factor modification interventions and provide a valuable resource for research designed to improve the treatment and outcomes with coronary heart disease.

The WMRMC supports the MHCC Work Group recommendation that the state of Maryland adopt the ACC-NCDR CathPCI Registry.

2. The Work Group recommends that Maryland adopt the ACTION-GWTG Registry tool.

The ACTION –GWTG Registry establishes a national standard for treatment patterns, clinical outcomes, drug safety and the overall quality of care provided to this high risk patient population. This registry provides a national surveillance system to asses the characteristics, treatments, and outcomes of presentation and hospitalization of STEMI and NSTEMI patient population. The objective of this registry is to improve adherence to the ACC/AHA STEMI and NSTEMI guideline recommendations through monitoring of process of care measures, development of quality indicators based upon guideline recommendations and specific benchmarked quality-of-care reports. This registry captures both pre-hospital care provided by EMS and cardiac status on first medical contact at a transferring facility or receiving facility and encompass the data collection of

presentation, hospital procedure, STEMI reperfusion, early invasive management, discharge quality metrics and in addition captures the AMI Core Measure Data.

The WMRMC supports the MHCC Work Group recommendation of the ACTION-GWTG Registry as the utilization of this registry will provide a valuable look at the “high risk” STEMI/NSTEMI patient population and support the MIEMS goal of data collection in the pre-hospital care setting.

3. The Work Group recommends the establishment of an ongoing Cardiac Data Advisory Committee to review data collected, interpret and adjudicate the data, and make recommendations to the MHCC.

The WMRMC supports the establishment of an ongoing “Cardiac Data Advisory Committee”. There is a general concern/request among some Maryland Hospitals for the MHCC to provide some form of mechanism of quality auditing process to assure data integrity, risk-adjustment and monitoring amongst hospitals. The recommendation of the work group recognizes this concern and conveys a strong message of data validation, and quality effort that will be provided by the establishment of “Cardiac Data Advisory Committee” that will work through this process with Maryland Hospitals.